





OUR COVER
The vampiress from the sters faces a mysterious extreterrestrial menace... the catwoman, Pantha. The fateful meeting rendered in this speciacular cover by Saniuliani

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SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N. AND AT ADDITIONAL MALING OFFICE SHITE CONFEIGHTE STORY MIGHTED STORY MIGHTED STORY MIGHT BE SERVED THROUGHOUT. THE YORK WHO WAS THE WAS A STORY MIGHT SHOWN THE WAS A STORY MIGHT WITH A STORY MIGHT CONFEIGHT. WHICH AND THE PAID A MAREN HAVE A STORY MIGHT CONFEIGHT. AND THE PAID A MAREN HAVE A STORY MIGHT CONFEIGHT AND THE PAID A MAREN HAVE A STORY MIGHT CONFEIGHT AND THE PRINT OFFICE MARCO WAS AND A STORY MIGHT WHITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE PUBLISHER.

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CONTENTS ISSUE NO. 50 APRIL 1976

VAMPI'S SCARLET LETTERS
Many readers have applauded VAMPIRELLA's new, more realistic direction. But where
is the new VAMPI, many fans want to know?
Can believability co-exist with "The Wonder World of Ambergris, Kato and Tonto?"

GALL ME PANTHER Murder in Wildwood Cemetery . . . people ripped to shreds, blood drained from their bodies. But VAMPIRELLA has discovered the murderer. A girl wearing an amulet of a Panther. Agirl who transforms herself into a killer cat!

EGYPTIAN JUNK PEDDLER
By virtue of the charm VAMPIRELLA held, a
person could become a snarling panther.
But magic lay in the amulet, not the wearer. Where did the bauble come from? By
what sorecry did it possess such power?

GRANNY & BABY DEALERS
VAMPIRELLA and Adam helped Fleur smash a kidnapping ring. Now Fleur will use her witches powers to devine the secret of the Amulet. A mystery that will send VAMPI and Adam racing for the pyramids of Egypt!

FINAL STAR OF MOURNING
Pantha had turned cat. In this guise she
had destroyed a cadre of armed assassins.
Now she was caged, trapped by scientists
determined to unravel the mystery of her
identity... the secret of the Great Sphinx!

DENNY COLT'S GRAVE Colt was found face down in suspended animation fluid and was buried. Now evil roams Wildwood and Pendragon and Van Helsing wonder... does Denny Colt's mad Spirit roam Wildwood Cemetery committing murders?

GROUND ROUND Martin had only one problem ... Shirley. She grumbled, nagged, made his life miserable from morning till night. When he buried the meat cleaver in Shirley's heart, he thought his troubles would be over. They were just beginning!

CONCERNING OUR MAIL ORDER ADVERTISEMENTS: Warren Publishing Co. guarantees the delivery and satisfaction of all terms advertised in this issue. Should you need to writo us concerning an order, whether it be from our address or a Post Office Box address, send your letter to: E.C., Ives, Customer Service Dept., Warren Publishing Co., 145 E. 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Vampi's Scarlet Letters...

a soon as VAMPIRELLA stepped off the plane in New York, I knew the real VAMPI was home to stay!

I've watched the recent de velopments in the VAMPIR-ELLA story with concern and growing delight. Concern for the safety of the characters the safety of the characters.

I have grown to love...delight in their growth into full
fledged people with legitimate, realistic concerns.

I now turn to each VAM-PIRELLA installment with an eager, delicious apprehen-sion. With what grave terrors, I wonder, will the dark side of the city confront our hero-ine next?

And I am always delighted to find out!

GERRY JONES Queens, N.Y.

Interestingly enough, the letters page of VAMPIRELLA #48 had more life than most of the stories in this unimproceive icene

Nothing stirs up graphic arts fans like an "artist controversy." The one that has been raging in VAMPIRELLA for the past several issues is no exception

Unfortunately, the very nature of a fan's allegiance to a certain artist makes such a controversy ultimately fruitless Although certain moreor-less objective criteria can be cited, any judgement as to who is the "best" artist for VAMPIRELLA is unavoidably subjective.

tion is even more subjective than usual. VAMPI's appear-ance is crucial to the success of the feature as a whole, and every fan has his own conception of how our delectable Drakulonne should be rendered.

Essentially, each plugging a certain artist said, "Artist X is the best for VAM-PIRELLA because I like his

I'm more-or-less on record in these pages as a man whole-heartedly in favor of the masterful Gonzalo Mayo's VAM-PIRELLA, Nevertheless, I'd welcome experimentation.

Why not give the excellent Ramon Torrents a crack at delineating our vampiress? Esteban Maroto's VAMPI

would, no doubt, be fabulous! But we'll never know what these fellows can do unless you give them a chance.

> ED O'REILLY Ada, Ohio

Ramon Torrents? Este-ban Maroto? On VAMPIREL-LA? Congratulations, Ed, our very thoughts. VAMPIRELLA #50 brings you these innovations...and more.

"The Wonderworld of Am-bergris, Kato and Tonto, Too!" the latest chapter in the re-juvenated VAMPIRELLA series, was another excellent Bill DuBay offering. My only complaint is that the main action in this story, like the previous VAMPI tale, "A Mon-ster Called VAMPIRELLA," focused not on VAMPI, but

on characters not central to the progress of her saga. However, the ending "Ambergris" implied that this will change in future is-

sues. I certainly hope so.
Zesar is good, but he's simply not right for VAMPI Get Jose Gonzalez back, if

you possibly can. He's the

R. ZIMMERMAN Red Lion Pa

VAMPIRELLA #48 displayed Zesar's strengths (as well as his weaknesses) far better than his previous VAMPI

He obviously enjoys draw-ing fantastic turn-of-the-century machinery. He's great at perspective and architectural details such as fire escapes.

Unfortunately, it takes more skilled architectural rendering to draw a woman as truly beautiful as VAM-

Zesar's VAMPI is pretty, in a bland sort of way. Too often, however, she has all the sex appeal of a dead fish.

VAMPI's facial expressions should be both subtle and variable, since emotions make the character come alive. It is this quality of aliveness that makes for genuine sex

Jose Gonzalez managed to create this quality. So did Jose Ortiz and Gonzalo Mayo. Perhaps, sometime in the future. Zesar will also master this most difficult art.

The script for "The Wonder-vorld of Ambergris, Kato and Tonto, Too!" shows that it is possible for our heroine to have adventures that are lighter in tone than usual, without descending into the sort of cheap "yuks" that characterized some previous scripts. And, as of this episode, the

series seems to be moving forward to . . . what? Something wonderful, I know!

BRIAN CADEN Cincinnati, Ohio dragon ... "at death's door. I was shocked when Conrad Van Helsing died, but Pen-dragon is a really vital char-

Please, don't kill Pendrag-M. FAUST No address

The story of man's attempt to outwit the devil is as old as the hills. There are fine examples of it throughout mythology, folk tales and mythology, folk tales and literature. And now we have a particularly winning version in the Bill DuBay/Ramon Torrents extravaganza,

Satan Complex."

Mr. Tibbs wanted to fly. And of course he got his wish for a price. He had meant merely to sign over his business to the devil. He hadn't intended to forfeit his life. Of course, that's what peo-

ple get . . . doing business with the devil. Their just desserts! And Ramon Torrents, fine artwork made arriving at the obvious conclusion a fremendous pleasure.

> LOUIS GRIFTY New Orleans, La.

"Starlight Lantern 909" was the best story in VAMPIREL-

Jose Ortiz' illustration was pretty fair and Gerry Boud-reau's story was delightful. Definitely top notch!
Ramon Torrents produced

issue #48's finest art. His "Satan Complex" was excellent ... beautiful as only Ra-mon Torrents' highly detailed, realistic style allows, Bill DuBay's story was a bit pre-dictable but that didn't stop me from enjoying it.

"Of Death and Distinction" and "Simon Silvershoe" both had fine art coupled with unimpressive plots.

And "Ambergris, Tonto and Kato, Too!" was just plain aw-ful. Zesar's much-too-sketchy art coupled with DuBay's completely uninspired plot re-sulted in a story that just doesn't make it! DuBay and Boudreau are

both fine writers. Each turned out one excellent tale this issue...and a passle of me-diocre ones. It's my opinion that they were overworked. I suggest that, in future

issues, you include more than two writers. T. CRITIC

Stuttgart, Germany

MINIONS! WILC... VAMPI'S SCARLET c/o Warren Publishing 145 E. 32nd Street New York, N.Y. 10016

Warren Publishing deserves an A-plus for VAMPIRELLA #48. The high quality of this issue was an added induce-ment to continue my subscription ad infinitum.

The VAMPIRELLA The VAMPIRELLA story, "Ambergris, Tonto and Kato." Too!" had real style. An ex-cellent tale and fine art by the relative newcomer, Ze-sar, made this episode one of

my favorites. Indeed, the balance of the issue ("Of Death and Distinction," "Simon Silvershoe" and "Starbright Lantern mendation as well.

In fact, the only suggestion I could make is a general one concerning the choice of a VAMPIRELLA artist regular. Keep Zesar on VAMPI, okay?

GORDON DOMES Baytown, Tex.

There have been obvious saga began. One such low point began with VAMPIRELLA's influx of audacious lovers They infected many of the episodes scripted by Flaxman Lowe

Then VAMPI and Pendragon returned to the States under the direction of a new writer. The strip began to come alive with excitement. From the moment VAMPI and Pendragon set foot in the New York airport, I knew everything was going to be okavi

But "Ambergris, Tonto and Kato, Too!" isn't quite what I had expected from the fan-tastic beginning of this series of new adventures. I vent of a new Iull in VAMPI's career. VAMPI as a do-gooder vampiress isn't so great. The concept of VAMPIRELLA as fugitive was, and is, fantastic

Zesar's art is the closest to Jose Gonzalez' that Warren Publishing has yet found. Although some of it looked rushed, in the main, it was exquisite. Being a die-hard Gonzalez fan I was pleased ... and impressed!

THOMAS G. KNOW! TON Rochester, Minn.

Editor's Note: This issue is dedicated to the many friends and co-workers who have made my four-year stay at Warren Publishing both memorable and pleasant. To the writers and artists whose genius has guided me. And to Bill Mohalley, Weezie Jones and Jose Toutain who have forever supposed bling editor.
With this issue of VAMPI-RELLA, I am retiring as editor of the Warren magazines.
BILL DuBAY forever supported this stum-

GRAVEYARDS. ON A CHILL WINTER NIGHT THE SILENCE IS DEAFENING. THE DEAD CAN BE HEARD WHISPERING IN THEIR TOMBS.

OTHERS COME TO WATCH DANCING SHADOWS PROMENADE ACROSS WALKWAYS OF THE IMAGINATION. SOME COME HERE TO RELIVE
HAUNTING MEMORIES WITH FRIENDS
LONG-PASSED FROM THIS WORLD.

YET OTHERS COME BECAUSE THEY ARE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH THE DEAD THAN THE LIVING.

ALL WHO COME SOFTLY RETURN THE WHISPERING OF THE DEAD.



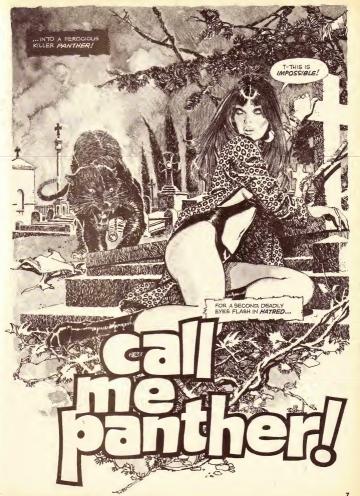












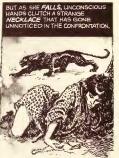
























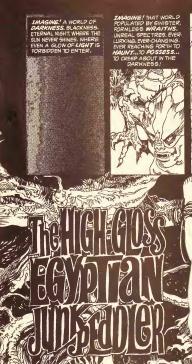
THE COAT'S MY COAT'S THICKNESS GONE ... AND I PROTECTED DON'T NEED ME FROM THAT THREE CAT'S RAZOR GUESSES CLAWS. WHAT'S LEFT OF IT IS NO WHERE IT'S DOUBT PROTECTING A FRIGHTENED GIRL FROM THE NIGHT ELEMENTS IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE, THE BEAUTY FROM DRAKULON LEAPS INTO THE AIR ... AND EVOLVES INTO A TINY, LEATHERN BAT....











ORLD UNREAL...
I HARSH REALITIES
IRTWINED THINGS THAT
E...YET ARE NOT.
GS THAT WILL BE...
I WEVER WERE!

SUCH A WORLD IS THAT OF A BLIND MAN. CONRAD VAN HELSING. PROFESSOR OF THE OCCULT. HUNTER OF THE SUPERNATURAL...

... PSYCHIC. WITH THE ABILITY TO SEE THINGS IN HIS MIND THAT MONE WOULD PARE LOOK UPON WITH THEIR EYES!





...I SAW A...A























EOPTIAN HISTORY
...EGYPTIAN
SOCIETY, IT IS A
MACTOR EARTH'S
PAST THAT IS
TO HISTORYANS
OLICIANS
AND ARCHAE
OLOGISTS.



"ACCORDING TO LEGENDS, THE PHAROAH WAS ENJOYING A ROYAL BATH IN THE NILE WHEN THE GODS SENT A BOLT OF BLINDING *LIGHT* OUT OF THE SKY...SHAKING THE EARTH WITH AN INTENSE THUNDER."





",..ONLY TO EMERGE SECONDS LATER... WITH THE UNCONSCIOUS FORM OF A GIANT MAN. "

"THE GIANT WAS BRUISED...HIS GAR-MENTS SHREDDED. YET, EVEN AS HE WAS PULLED AGHORE, HE LOOKED TO PHAROAH KHUFU WITH MISTY, THANKFUL EYES."



"LEGENDS SAY THE GIANT WAS SO TOMSUE-TIED HE COULD FORM NOT ONE DISTINGUISHABLE WORD DESPITE THIS, THE PHARCAH AND THE STRANGE MAN BECAME FAST FRIENDS...
"INSEPARABLE."

"PHAROAH GIVE HIS COMPANION THE NAME KHARRA...MEALER, FOR IN TRUTH, THE GIANT HEALED HIS OWN WOUNDS QUICKLY...ANP AT THE SIPE OF HIS NOBLE LORP, HEALED THE WOUNDS AND CURED THE ILLS OF ALL WHOM HE ENCOUNTERED."



"HE BECAME. THE **WISE MAN** OF KHUFU'S COURT. HE WAS QUICK TO BE LOVED, RESPECTED BY NOBLEMAN AND SLAVE ALIKE. AND TO PHAROAH'S ENEMIES...THERE WAS NO GREATER **FEAR** THAN THAT OF KHAFRA'S **POWERS."**





PHAROAH LIVED MANY HAPPY YEARS WITH HIS FRIEND, KHAFRA, AT HIS SIDE. WHEN AGE CLAIMED THE NOBLE RULER, THERE WAS NONE SADDER THAN KHAFRA, THE HEALER."





THAT HE RUI REGARDED AS ONE

BUT HE MUST HAVE

ASSUREDLY BEEN A

BELOVED RULER, FOR

WISEST RULERS IN







BEFORE HIS DEATH, KHAFRA,



TO THIS DAY, NONE

HAVE COMPLETELY

UNDERSTOOD





AT THE HOTEL, *ADAM* AND **VAMPIRELLA** RETELL THE FANTASTIC TALE TO AN ANXIOUS **CONRAD VAN** HELSING AND PENDRAGON.

NUBIA'S LEGEND CONFLICTS WITH SO MUCH OF WHAT WE KNOW AS EGYPTIAN HISTORY.

AND YET, IF ONE TENTH OF IT IS TRUE, IT WOULD EXPLAIN SO MUCH.

LIKE THE SPHINX. IT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY IT HAS THE BODY OF A CAT... AND THE FACE OF KHAFRA.



NOT HARDLY, PEN. BUT VAMPI SULKS AT THE STARS BECAUSE SHE CAME FROM ONE ... AND OFTENTIME YEARNS TO GO BACK ...! OF COURSE, ADAM!

THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING!

KHAFRA WAS A STAR-TRAVELLER POSSIBLY FROM A PLANET SIMILAR TO DRAKULON ... WHERE THE IN-HABITANTS COULD TRANSFORMINTO ANOTHER SHAPE AT WILL!



TO HAVE BEEN THE SOURCE OF HIS POWER! WELL, IT APPEARS THAT YON DANNIKEN WAS RIGHT. BUT SO WAS SPOCK ... BENJAMIN THAT IS ... WHEN HE SAID ALL GOOD CHILDREN NEED THEIR REST!

YET THIS STONE SEEMS



PEN'S RIGHT, LET'S

CALL IT A NIGHT

TOMORROW, MORE

































GRANNY GOOSE E The Barby Joealers



FAR BE IT FOR THIS ANCIENT VAUDEVILLIAN TO QUESTION A WIZENED PHILOSOPHER'S THEOREMS...

... BUT I AM CURIOUS,
OLD FRIEND, AS TO WHAT THE
HELL WE ARE DOING IN THIS
ARCHAIC TOMB UNDER POLICE
HEADQUARTERS, PERUSING
DUSTY TOMES THAT'VE BEEN
INDPENED SINCE MY UNPORTUNATE CONCEPTION.



RESEARCH, PENDRAGON! WE'RE LOOKING FOR CLUES AND WE'RE HERE COURTESY OF MADAME POLICE COMMISSIONER!

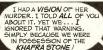
WHILE WE WERE ALL
WRASSLING WITH MADAME
EL AMARNA LAST NIGHT,
ANOTHER GRISLY
MURDER WAS BEING
PERPETRATED IN



A SECOND YOUNG
GIRL WAS DISCOVERED WITH
HER THROAT SLASHED...
AND BLOOD DRAINED!

AND I, MY FRIEND, AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT GIRL'S DEATH!





WE WERE CERTAIN THAT
THE AMULET AND ITS MYSTICAL
ABILITIES TO CHANGE WHOEVER
WEARS IT INTO A KILLER CAT,
WAS THE CAUSE OF THE FIRST
MURDER...THE ONE

DISCOVERED BY VAMPIRELLA!



IT IS MY THEORY THAT
SOME STRANGE BLOOD-LUSTING
CREATURE RESIDES IN THAT
CEMETERY... PERHAPS LIVING
UNDER THE VERY TOMBSTONES
IT HAS BEEN JUSING AS

SACRIFICIAL ALTARS!

AND I PROMISE YOU
THAT I WILL NOT REST UNTIL I UNEART.
THE SECRET BURIED IN WILDWOOD
CEMETERY!



TIS A PITY OUR VACATION HERE HAS BEEN DAMPENED BY A SWEET CHILD WHO LIKES TO DISCOVER FRESH BODIES DANGLING IN GRAVEYARDS ... AND A GUILT-RIDDEN, VOW-MAKING PROFESSOR .

IT'S CALL CONSCIENTIOUSNESS PEN. WE COULD EASILY WALK AWAY FROM ALL THIS AND NEVER LOOK



BUT AFTER OUR ORDEAL IN NEW YORK CITY, WE NEED A GOOD MYSTERY TO GET US BACK TO THE OLD GRIND!

AREN'T YOU THE LEAST BIT CURIOUS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THIS AMULET, PEN BE HERE?







THE REPORT CONTINUES YOUNG CRIMINOLOGIST, DENN) COLT, HALTED THE PROFE BUT WAS FOUND FACE DOWN IN A PUDDLE OF THE MYSTERIOUS



THEY BURIED COLT IN WILDWOOD CEMETERY...
NEARLY THIRTY-FIVE
YEARS AGO!

ADAM! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU DON'T THINK COLT COULD HAVE BEEN IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION ALL THAT TIME ?



WHAT I THINK! FURTHER COLT HAS ONLY RECENT COME OUT OF HIS CRYOGENIC TRANCE

.AND BECAUSE OF HIS ORDEAL, HAS BECOME SOME SORT OF HIDEOUS BLOOD-LUSTING MONSTER!

IT MAKES SENSE SON . BURIED ALIVE AL THESE YEARS, DENNY COLT COULD HAVE TRANSFORMED VEGETABLE.

HE AWAKENED TO FIND HIMSELF IN A TOMB, NO DOUBT HIS CLOTHING, HIS COFFIN AND PERHAPS EVEN PARTS OF HIS BODY EATEN AWAY BY













































































DISTANT PLANET!



THROUGHOUT CULTURES







HOW RIGHT YOU ARE, GRANNY IT'S TAKEN A BAT ... AND A CAT!

The Final Star of MORNing

THRILLING TO BE

ET SO MYSTERIOUS

SO RICH IN HISTORY

Ot ADAM, ISN'T

IMAGINE, THE ANCIENT
KHAFRA MUST HAVE
STOOD UPON THIS VERY
HILL, OVERLOOKING THE
CONSTRUCTION OF THE
GREAT PYRAMIDS.

The state of the s

IT IS, IMPRESSIVE, LOVER. BUT WE DIDN'T COME HERE TO SIGHTSEE.

WE'VE GOT A
PANTHER GIRL
TO FIND











ONCE WE SHIP BOTH THE GIRL AND THE CRAFT TO MOSCOW OUR SCIENTISTS CAN STUDY THEM ... FIND OUT WHAT MAKES EACH OF THEM









HEROES, YOU AND BORIS!

AH, WE SHALL BE

















LOOKS AS THOUGH

THEY'VE KEPT YOU

WEEKS!

IT'S ALL BECOMING

VERY CLEAR NOW































"AFTER THAT, I...I \ SOB! (FI ONLY WANTED TO PORGET," YET, I'VE TRIED 50 HARD TO REMEMBER SINCE THEN...TO DISCOVER MY ORIGINS."

THIS CRAFT WAS FOUND IN A
TOMB MUCH YOUNGER THAN
WHAFRA'S, I PON'T KNOW HOW
IT GOT HERE...WHY IT'S HERE.
IT'S EXISTANCE POSES SOME
INTERESTING POSSIBILITES.

I KNOW ONLY THAT IT IS QUITE FUNCTIONAL...QUITE CAPABLE OF TAKING ME HOME...FOR I HAVE SEEN THE RUSSIANS STUDY IT...OPERATE IT!













PASS FROM HISLIFE

AND RETURN

SHE CAME





HAVE FINALLY REALIZED

THAT THANKS TO YOU AND PEN... I'VE FOUND MY HOME!

Denny Colle Grave

THE GRAVE, THE FINAL RESTING PLACE. WHERE MOTHER EARTH EMBRACES HER CHILDREN...RETURNING THEM TO HER WOMB FOR THE FINAL TIME.

THE GRAVE. PEACEFUL. SILENT. LONELY. WHERE AN ETERNITY OF RESTRUCESS CAN BE FOUND IN DEATH...

... SAVE FOR THOSE RARE MOMENTS WHEN THE LIVING TREAD CARELESSLY INTO THE REALM OF THE DEAD!





















































































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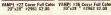
























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FRANK
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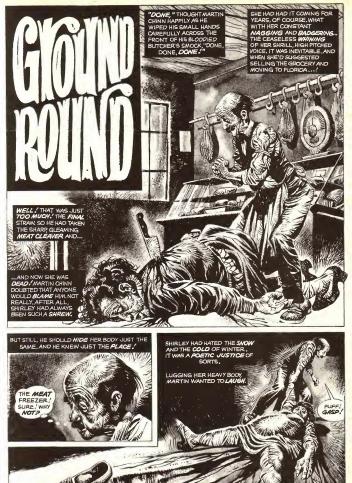
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THE BLACK CAT An Edgar Allan Poe shocker. Universal Pictures masterpiece starring Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosil Now, own the movie poster from the cinematicate of terror... a 29°x20° full-color announcement of the film's debut. Scenes feature Karloff, Lugosi, Jacqueline Wells and the Black Cat. #2925/\$2.00



KING KUNG: Ine film as new as stop-motion aninew as stop-motion aniBeauty and the Beast.
Nowownthe 29"x20"fulcolor poster introducing
Willis O'Brien's animated epic! Kong, stop the
Empire State Building,
clutching the beautiful
and swatting planes with
the other. A collector's
dream! #2926/\$2.00





AND FOR A BRIEF, PLEASANT
MOMENT, MARTIN FORGOT
ABOUT THE SECOND
IRRITATION IN HIS LIFE...
HELLO, MARTIN

DEAR, IS SHIRLEY

READY YET?







R-READY?

I... UH... THAT

15--











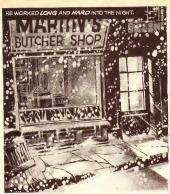




















THE DAY PASSED QUICKLY AND PLEASANTLY FOR MARTIN CHINN. YES, HE WOULD THE LISHIRLEY'S INQUISITIVE PRIEMD WHEN SE CAME IN, "ITS TRULE, WE'RE MOVING TO FLORIDA." NO, SHE'S NOT FEELING WELL, THE DOCTOR PRESONDED BED REST... AND NO WISTONS."















SHE'S ASLEEP! SHE SHOULDN'T BE

DISTURBED!









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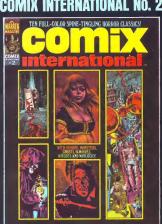
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